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12-31-02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of

Francine J. Prokoski

Serial No. 09/329,217

Group Art Unit 2623

Filed June 10, 1999

Examiner M. Miller

For METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ALIGNMENT, COMPARISON &  
IDENTIFICATION OF CHARACTERISTIC TOOL MARKS, INCLUDING  
BALLISTIC SIGNATURES

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED

DEC 30 2002

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

Technology Center 2600

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed June 21, 2002, a petition for a three-month extension of time for response is hereby made. A check in the amount of \$460 to cover the fee therefor is attached. Further, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

In the Abstract:

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

Systematic use of infrared [image analysis in conjunction with currently used visible image analysis techniques provides significant improvements in automated analysis of tool marks. In particular, the method and apparatus of this patent identify illumination-induced artifacts such as glint and shadow, detect features such as additional striations hidden by shadows, and correct for apparent reversal of lands and

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